

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed this application in light of the Office Action mailed February 21, 2008. Claims 2 and 21 were previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 3-20 and 22-28 are pending in this Application. Claims 1, 3-20 and 22-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 1, 20, and 24 have been amended to further define various features of Applicants' invention. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 5-15, 18, 20, 24, 27 and 28 stand rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,996,450 issued to Edward J. Suttle ("*Suttle*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,970,639 issued to John Mark McGrath ("*McGrath*").

Claims 3, 4, 22, 23, 25 and 26 stand rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of *Suttle* and *McGrath*, as applied to claim 1, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,076,080 issued to William F. Morscheck ("*Morscheck*").

Claims 16-17 and 19 stand rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Suttle*.

Suttle discloses an automated manufacturing system and method for manufacturing photomasks based on information provided by a customer. (Col. 5, lines 40-44). The method and system includes software for processing photomask design data, where the software is configured to extract information from customer design data and arrange such data in a format suitable for performing photomask manufacturing tasks. (Col. 5, lines 57-61).

McGrath discloses an editing system for editing video and/or audio source content. (Col. 1, lines 7-12). The system includes source metadata associated with the source content, template metadata defining a certain style for content, and a processing unit configured to apply the template to the source content by comparing the source metadata with the template metadata in

order to arrange portions of the source content to produce an edited content sequence. (Col. 1, lines 29-39).

Claim 1, as amended, recites a method comprising “automatically processing the product order information file using a rules engine to apply a predefined set of customer requirements for processing the product order information file to the product order information file such that the product order information file is loaded into an order entry module.”

Claim 20, as amended, recites a system operable to “automatically process the product order information file using a rules engine to apply a predefined set of customer requirements for processing the product order information file to the product order information file such that the product order information file is loaded into an order entry module.”

Claim 24, as amended, recites a method comprising “automatically processing the XML file using a rules engine to apply a predefined set of customer requirements for processing the XML file to the XML file such that the product order information file is loaded into an order entry module.”

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references fail to disclose every element of Applicants’ invention. Further, there is no motivation, suggestion or teaching to combine either *Suttle* and *McGrath*. For instance, neither *Suttle* nor *McGrath*, disclose or suggest a method including the step of “automatically processing the product order information file using a rules engine to apply a predefined set of customer requirements for processing the product order information file to the product order information file such that the product order information file is loaded into an order entry module,” as recited by amended Claim 1. Additionally, *Suttle* and *McGrath*, alone or in combination, fail to teach a system for electronic order entry and automatic processing of a photomask including executable instructions operable to “automatically process the product order information file using a rules engine to apply a predefined set of customer requirements for processing the product order information file to the product order information file such that the product order information file is loaded into an order entry module,” as recited by amended Claim 20. Furthermore, *Suttle* and *McGrath*, alone or in combination, fail to teach a system for electronic order entry and automatic processing of a photomask including

executable instructions operable to “automatically process the product order information file using a rules engine to apply a predefined set of customer requirements for processing the product order information file to the product order information file such that the product order information file is loaded into an order entry module,” as recited by amended Claim 24. Accordingly, *Suttle* and *McGrath* cannot render obvious Claims 1, 20 and 24.

Given that Claims 3-19 depend from Claim 1, Claims 22 and 23 depend from Claim 20, and Claims 25-28 depend from Claim 24, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 3-19, 22, 23 and 25-28 are allowable. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and allow Claims 1, 3-20, and 22-28.

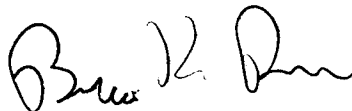
CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of Claims 1, 3-20 and 22-28 as amended.

Applicants believe there are no fees due at this time; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicants' attorney at 512.322.2684.

Respectfully submitted,
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